

# The Voice

Algona High School

Edited by: Jessica Kuhlmann & Chelsea Korf

October 23, 2009

## 5-Plex Theater in Algona

Grayson McElroy

If you haven't heard, the Fridley movie theater is expanding. It's not moving to a new location but expanding by adding two new theaters to its current three features.

The theater is a popular place for teens and adults of the community. The reason for the expansion is due to the fact that the theater does well for its size and is hopeful to increase profits with the expansion. The theater will keep the same prices on tickets and concession items.

Construction for

the theater began on August 30th and is scheduled to end around the first week of November. The two new theaters will be on opposite sides of the lobby and will be closer to the front doors of the building. The theaters will be about the same size as the already existing ones. Construction, so far, has gone well and they are hoping to meet the finish deadline.

Ryan McMahon, employee of the theater, says the new theaters will be awesome and hopefully get a wider variety of movies.

## A twist on love

Natalie Hackbarth

A caring, put-together man, Burke Ryan, tries to help people who are grieving the loss of loved ones. Burke Ryan (Aaron Eckhart) wrote a book to help him cope with the death of his wife and ended up being an inspiration to others. He travels from city to city giving motivational speeches and workshops to help others confront their pain; only to find out he also needs help.

Burke meets Eloise (Jennifer Aniston), a laid-back, self-employed florist, who finds herself having trouble choosing the right guy. With hesitation at first,

Eloise ends up dating Burke and in her own way, helps him deal with his guilt.

*Love Happens* is rated PG 13 for some language and runs 109 minutes long. The movie will make you laugh and touch your emotional side. Aaron Eckhart plays a convincing role of a troubled man hiding his doubts under a layer of positivity. If action and gore are what you like to see in movies, *Love Happens* isn't for you. The light-hearted plot and sympathy you'll have for the characters will keep you in your seat throughout the entire film.

## What do you think about the new 5-Plex?

"It'll be good for the town,"  
Audrey Schuttler  
"The movies will probably still rock," Carly Sansone

"It'll be good,"  
Jeff Burtnett

"5<3," Katie Connick

"So many movies, so little time!"  
Nicole Person

"It sounds more interesting,"  
"It's quality not quantity," Eric Tull  
Tiffani Groen

"There'll be more options now,"  
"I'm totally stoked," Alynnia Freeburg  
Nicole Kenne

"I'm probably not going to watch many movies there," Nyle Larson  
"We have a movie theater?"  
Kari Simpson

# CC boys 3x NCC Champs!

Jessica Kuhlman

The Algona Cross Country team traveled to Eagle Grove on October 6, 2009. The race was 3.1 miles. The boys placed first at the meet with a total of 34 points. Ryan McMahon won the meet for the second year in a row by placing first with a time of 16:04. Behind Ryan was Alex Kenne placing fourth with a time of 17:05, Joe Schattschneider placed 7th with a time of 17:17, Derek Beaumier trailed behind Joe by a second and placed 8th with a time of 17:18, next was Johnny Aboud placing 14th with a time of 17:59, Dustin Rasmus placed 29th with a time of 18:54, and Josh Hollinger placed 30th with a time of 18:57.

The girls placed

third at Eagle Grove with 76 points. For the girls, Nicole Bosworth placed 8th with a time of 16:39, Alanna Lauck placed 10th with a time of 16:53, Stella Arndorfer placed 16th with a time of 17:23, next was Paige Yi placing 19th with a time of 17:32, Kyle Klepper placed 23rd with a time of 17:49, Katie Green placed 36th with a time of 18:50, and next was Sarah Bierle placing 41st with a time of 18:59.

The team traveled a short bus ride to Whittemore for their NCC Conference meet on Tuesday, October 13, 2009. The boys did it again! They finished first in the Conference meet, beating every team by a bunch. Algona won the meet with

a total of 26 points. Algona took the NCC champion title again this year. Ryan McMahon was the NCC champion; he finished 1st in the meet with a time of 16:19, next was Derek Beaumier finishing 4th with a time of 17:15, just trailing behind Derek was Chad Rutledge with a time of 17:17, and just trailing behind Chad was Alex Kenne with a time of 17:19. Next was Joe Schattschneider finishing 10th with a time of 17:49, Kyle Walker finished 12th with a time of 18:02, and Johnny Aboud finished 14th with a time of 18:06. Kaitlyn Sewick says, "I'm so proud of our boys!"

The Algona girls fin-

ished 4th in the Conference this year. Finishing 10th was Alanna Lauck with a time of 16:36, finishing 15th was Nicole Bosworth with a time of 16:59, coming in 22nd was Stella Arndorfer with a time of 17:26, finishing 23rd was Katie Connick with a time of 17:27, next, in 33rd, was Kyle Klepper with a time of 18:05, finishing 35th was Paige Yi with a time of 18:19, and coming in 43rd was Sarah Bierle with a time of 18:48.

Their next meet will be the District meet, which got moved to Monday, October 26, 2009, in Spencer. The meet will start at 4:00 p.m. This meet determines if they go to State or not.

## Pheasant opener

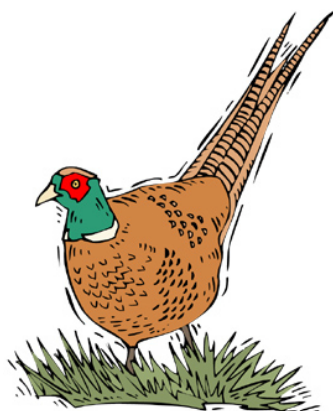
Adam Reimers

On October 31st, pheasant season will be opening. In order to hunt, you need a license. You can buy a license at K-Mart for pretty cheap.

There are several rules in hunting. The limit of pheasants for each person is three birds. There are two times during the day that you have to pay really close attention to. At eight o'clock is when you can start hunting and you have to stop shooting at four o'clock. When you hunt, you can only shoot the roosters. Roosters are typically the pretty ones; they are the more colorful ones. If people shoot the hens, the pheasant population would go down more every year. "I can't wait to shoot the roost-

ers," says Luke Ingalls.

The DNR said the pheasant population is down this year by 18 percent. There is a lot of corn in the field, so the pheasants stay in there and it's hard to find them. The population could go back up when some of the crops get out and it forces the pheasants out.



## Showing practice really does work

Allison Kajewski

Improving from their last meet, the Algona Girls' Swim Team competed at Spencer on Monday, October 12. They beat Storm Lake 51-43, after only ten days ago losing to them by 26 points. The girls lost to Spencer with the same score they lost to them ten days ago, 76-18.

The girls had a lot of good finishes. Jenni Weaver and JoHanna Degen both swam in the 200 free relay that took first place, they were both also in the 400 free that came in first too. JoHanna Degen took second in the 100 free; Nicole Kenne also took second in the 500 free. Missy Zadow and Jenni Weaver were both a part of

the 200 medley relay that took second as well. Missy Zadow swam the 100 breast stroke and came in third.

Coach Fisher was very proud of the girls and said, "By looking at these performances, we had a good night." JoHanna Degen had a personal best on Monday. Every event took anywhere from one to six seconds off the time from ten days ago.

The Algona Girls' Swim Team is now three and five on the season. On Monday, October 19, they will travel to Perry, and then they go to Charles City on Tuesday.

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## Six straight

Molly Cook

The 2nd ranked Lady Bulldogs continue their winning streak. They are Conference champs for the 6th year in a row! Their current record is 35-1.

Last Thursday, October 15th, they defeated Eagle Grove in three games. The final scores were 25-16, 25-7, and 25-13. Leading the Lady Bulldogs in kills was Natalie Hackbarth with ten kills followed by Allie Simpson with seven. Laura TerHark led the Dogs with 16 digs. Audrey Schuttler, Molly Cook, and Kirsten Lipps provided the Bulldogs with three aces each.

On Saturday, October 17th, the Lady Bulldogs hosted their final tournament for the year. Coming out 6-0 on the day, the Bulldogs won the tournament, beating all the teams in two games. They beat West Hancock, Clear Lake, Forest City, Spencer, and Carroll. The girls finished the day beating Forest City in

the championship. The final scores were 25-8 and 25-17.

The Bulldogs' final Conference game was Tuesday, October 20th, against Webster City. The Bulldogs beat the Lynx in three games, 25-20, 25-12, and 25-11. The win against Webster City gave the Bulldogs their sixth straight Conference title.

The Bulldogs now begin tournament play on Monday, October 26th, against Clear Lake. The game will be held at Algona High School starting at 7:00 p.m. If they win, they play against either Hampton-Dumont or Forest City on Thursday, October 29th, at Algona. The Regional final, the final game before State, will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd, at Eagle Grove, not Garrigan like previously announced. As always, all post-season games are \$5 for admission and activity tickets are not valid.

### Hampton-Dumont

Regional Quarterfinal  
Monday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Forest City

### Forest City

### Clear Lake

Regional Quarterfinal  
Monday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Algona

### Algona

### Webster City

Regional Quarterfinal  
Monday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Boone

### Boone

### Iowa Falls-Alden

Regional Quarterfinal  
Monday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Humboldt

### Humboldt

Regional Semifinal  
Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Algona

Regional FINAL  
Tuesday, November 3, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Eagle Grove

Regional Semifinal  
Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.  
@ Humboldt



## Fighting Bulldogs

Hannah Kadow

The Algona Bulldogs played in Hampton on Friday, October 9, 2009. The Bulldogs played a good, hard game but fell 6 to 33. Collin Fett had 55 yards, Michael McMahon had 42 yards, Blair Bradley had 34 yards, and Austin Zadow had 17 yards on offense. The team had a total of 149 yards on offense. Solo tackles came from Collin Fett, Michael McMahon, Austin Zadow, Blair Bradley, Michael Er-

pelding, Derek Person, Connor McGuire, Alex Kading, Casey Hiscocks, Brandon Keller, Mike Gade, Clint McGuire, Brad Bjstrom, Bryce Hickman, Nick Buchanan, Alex Smith, and Alex Wiseman.

The Bulldogs played at home on Friday, October 16. They played against Forest City and fell 0 to 40. Collin Fett had 86 yards, Michael McMahon had 64 yards, Austin Zadow had

40 yards, and Blair Bradley had 11 yards on offense. The team had a total of 201 yards on offense. Solo tackles came from Collin Fett, Michael McMahon, Austin Zadow, Blair Bradley, Michael Erpelding, Derek Person, Casey Hiscocks, Jake Hilsabeck, Mike Gade, Clint McGuire, Michael Vandenhommel, PJ McMahon, and Connor McGuire.

The Bulldogs' next game is in Charles City on

Friday, October 23rd. This is the last game for the 2009 season. "I'm excited to play but sad because it's my last game," said senior Blake Mills. The Bulldogs are hoping to come out and finish the season with great win.



## He's still got it

Cody Fortune

The Minnesota Vikings are now 5-0 with their win over Saint Louis last week. Brett Favre is having an amazing season, especially in the Vikings' win over the Green Bay Packers two weeks ago. After that win, Favre became the first quarterback to ever defeat all 32 NFL teams.

Brett Favre played 16 seasons with the Green Bay Packers but then decided to retire. After making that decision, he decided not to retire. By then, the Packers had already decided to

go in a different direction with Aaron Rodgers. The New York Jets then picked up Brett for a season, now this year he made his way to the Minnesota Vikings.

Brett Favre has thrown nine touchdown passes this season and thrown for 1,069 yards. In Favre's career, he has 7 receiving yards and 1,828 rushing yards. Brett has thrown for 66,474 yards in his career. Cody King says, "Brett Favre is blessed by the football gods."

“To be cool do you have to drink and party in high school?”

## Be cool

Bradie Becker

In high school, students have many questions on how to act. Some people think they have to act different than they normally would in high school just to be cool.

There are several key areas where students think they must act cool: drinking, partying, dating, etc. One student, Carly Sansone, says, "To be cool, do you have to drink and party in high school?"

Many people have varying opinions on this topic. No, it doesn't make you a cool person. People

should make their own decisions and do whatever they think is right.

The kids these days are making bad decisions. Everyone thinks they need to be someone who they aren't. This is why schools are having so many problems with students. The kids don't even think about what they are doing and how it affects them. Students need to make better decisions and just be yourself.

## Go Hawks!

Kelsie Varvel

The Iowa Hawkeyes have had a great season this year, holding the second longest winning streak in the nation with eleven consecutive wins.

The first half of the Iowa Hawkeyes' football season has been recorded and they are a perfect 6-0, with a ten game winning streak. Contributing to this perfect record is the steady, disciplined approach by head coach Kirk Ferentz, and he will continue with this discipline during the final six weeks of the season. This is Kirk Ferentz's eleventh year at Iowa.

The two most recent games played were against Michigan and Wisconsin. Iowa and Michigan played on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Michigan came into the game with a record of 3-3. It was Iowa's homecoming, and

they beat Michigan 30-28. "I'm proud of our football team. Michigan came to play and they played extremely hard too. It was a great football game," said head coach Kirk Ferentz. "It was an entertaining opening first fifteen minutes. The teams combined for 24 points and both quarterbacks were intercepted on their first pass attempts."

On Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, Iowa played Wisconsin. Wisconsin came into the game with a record of 5-1. Iowa dropped Wisconsin 20-10. This game was sold out, and it was Wisconsin's homecoming. Iowa is now ranked 7<sup>th</sup>, instead of 11<sup>th</sup>, and are 7-0.

The next game is on October 24<sup>th</sup>, at Michigan State, who has a current record of 3-3.

### Games already played & scores:

September 5-Northern Iowa 17-16

September 11-@Iowa State 35-3

September 19-Arizona 27-17

September 26-@Penn State 21-10

October 3-Arkansas St. 24-21

October 10-Michigan 30-28

October 17-Wisconsin 20-10

### Future games:

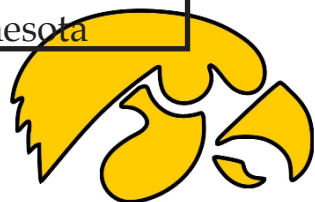
October 24 at Michigan State

October 31 Indiana

November 7 Northwestern

November 14 at Ohio State

November 21 Minnesota



# School News

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## Carrying on the tradition

Jeni Zeller

On Saturday, October 10, 2009, the 52 member Scarlet Regiment Marching Band traveled to Fort Dodge to participate in the Iowa High School State Marching Festival. The bands get scored a division I, II, III, IV, or V rating, depending on how they march and play.

To receive a division I rating, bands must score between 68-100 points. There are two judges: Marching & Maneuvering and Music. One judge is in the press box and the other judge walks around the field. 30% of the score comes from the field judge and the other 60% comes from the judge in the box.

The AHS band received a division I rating with a total score of 82.7 points. This year marked the 31<sup>st</sup> division I rating in the history of the band and the 24<sup>th</sup> consecutive division I rating.

The Scarlet Regiment Marching Band played a combination of Billy Joel pieces, including, "We Didn't Start the Fire," "My Life Only the Good Die Young," "Air Dublinesque," and "Just the Way You Are." To end the show, the band also did an encore from part of the first song. Emily Prilipp said, "Color guard rocks!"

## Fruit, cheese, and sausage

Derrick Johnson

It's that time of the year again. It's time the FFA members start selling their fruit, cheese, and sausage. They started selling the food on October 14, and the selling will end on November 9.

The fundraiser is another way of bringing money into the chapter for paying bills, buying new equipment, and for the FFA Banquet. So all the money is going to a good place.

Last year was a pretty successful year of selling fruit, cheese, and

sausage for the Algona FFA Chapter. Last year they sold about twenty thousand dollars of food. This year Mr. MacVey hopes to sell more. There are a lot of people in the community who buy the FFA's food.

The food should be delivered on December ninth. Bradie Becker, who is really excited to sell, says, "The fruit, cheese, and sausage sales have begun and we have a nice selection of items this year."

## Shopping in Mason

Audrey Schuttler

On Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, the Fashion Strategies class, instructed by Mrs. Bormann, went to Mason City for a fashion lab. They left right when the school day started and got back a little before the day ended.

The students of the class had to find three different outfits for three different occasions: business interview, casual date, and wedding. Since the class started, they have been reviewing clothing messages, clothing illusions, colors that are appropriate for each individual, and quality of clothing, fibers, and fabrics. Once they picked out each outfit for each occasion, they had to model their choice. They watched the movie that was recorded in the store of each student modeling their outfits in class, and as a whole, they observed each outfit on each student.

Even though it seems like all fun and games with modeling, the students must fill out a packet stating the illusions, clothing message, price, quality, fiber content, care for the clothing, and whether the outfit is a good buy or not.

Students who participated in the trip were Tori McCurry, Megan Crosser, Shelby Wagner, Courtney Schneider, Tayler Cink, Audrey Schuttler, Rachel Hoskins, Brittany Meyer, Lacy Wait, Codi Albertson, Eric Tull, and Ashley Moore.

In the next few weeks, the students of the Fashion Strategies class will be starting their sewing projects. When in Mason City, they also went to JoAnn's Fabrics to purchase the fabric they will need for their projects.

## Lee family benefit

Ashley Mahurin

Come show your support for the Lee family at a benefit on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, at the Whittemore Community Center.

You can buy raffle tickets for 20 dollars each. The raffle drawing sponsors are JB Mertz & Sons, Snap-on, Country Maid Inc., and friends of the Deb Lee family. The raffle is for a Gator XUV 620i 4x4, with a retail price of \$13,275, or a Snap-On KRL 1022a 13-drawer roll cabinet, with a retail price of \$7,675.

From 5 to 7:30 there will be a silent auction, the winning bids will then be announced. You must be

present at that time to pay and take the item home.

From 5 to 8 is dinner. From 8 to 10 will be live entertainment featuring the Reverend Catfish blues band. 100% of the drawing sales, silent auctions sales, and other donations go to the Deb Lee Family to cover the future costs associated with the loss of their husband and father, Dana Lee.

Ean Weber says, "We're helping out the Lee family because Brandon is a devoted FFA member." Please come help support the family and celebrate the life of Dana Lee, all are welcomed!

# State institutions in trouble?

Triston Dacken

This month, Iowa's governor, Chet Culver, decided that the way he was going to fix the state's money problems was going to be a 10% budget cut across the board. This decision was made because the REC (Revenue Estimating Conference) predicted declines in state revenue by 8.4%, or the equivalent of \$414.9 million.

Governor Culver said, "Our state is faced with simple but painful choices: to increase taxes, cut spending, or both. I have been clear on this: I believe now is

not the time to raise taxes on hard-working Iowans."

This may be what is best, but state institutions are going to be hard pressed for money after the cut takes place. Our own school district is losing a \$614,000 because of this, and all other state institutions are going to be losing substantial amounts of money also. It won't really be affecting this year's budget as much as next year's.

Algona Community School District superintendent Marty Fonley said,

"What this means is we'll utilize the cash reserve levy we've set up to pay off ISCAP to cover the shortfall from the state. It just means that we'll take longer to pay off our debt to ISCAP."

Because of these 10% cuts, some lay-offs will be expected. With state funded institutions, funding dropped by 10%. They are not going to be able to afford to keep paying all of their employees and cuts will be made in that area also.

This move is probably for the best, despite the

repercussions it may have. Since spending is down and state revenue is down because of that, the state has to make money some way. This is the only logical way to do that without taxing people. This is the view of more than just the Democratic Party, the Republicans agree with it also.

While it may be hard on many, hopefully it is the right decision.

# Obama, Obama, oh!

Alynnia Freeburg

President Barack Obama was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday, October 9. It is only the third time in history that a U.S. President has won the Nobel Peace Prize. The other two Presidents were Teddy Roosevelt in 1906 and Woodrow Wilson in 1919.

Obama was nominated for the award just 12 days after taking office. There was a lot of controversy over this issue.

According to the Nobel Foundation, Obama won the prize for, "his efforts to strengthen international diplomacy." Many seem to be questioning what exactly those efforts were though. A

columnist from the *New York Times* said that, "Obama has not done anything yet on the scale that would normally merit such an award." However, his work to fix the rift between the West and the Muslims and his work to scale down a missile defense shield in Eastern Europe both played a part in the decision of Obama winning the prize.

How does Barack feel about winning? Well, he says, "To be honest, I do not feel that I deserve to be in the company of so many of the transformative figures who've been honored by this prize."

# Are you serious?

Chelsea Korf

On Saturday, October 10th, the first snowflake of the year fell. Many people think that snow usually comes during December, not October. That is almost true, but sometimes it comes in the end of November, but not this year. Mother nature decided to let it fall earlier than most expected.

Throughout the weekend of the 9th, instead of having nice fall weather, snow decided to just keep coming. Angie Eischeid, a librarian from Algona High, says, "The snow was very pretty except it came too early." After the snow came a lot of coldness.

This very unexpected snow was very light. It actually did not stick to the ground because the ground was not frozen; after a little

while it melted away. The snow did not last very long. It ended on Monday, October 12th.

Many kids in local schools were wishing for a ton of snow for either a two-hour delay or to get out early. Many at Algona High School students tried tricking others into thinking they were getting out of school early. Many fell for it, but many knew with Algona only getting a few inches they weren't getting out early.

In order for a two-hour late start, Mr. Fonley and Mr. Stence go out around 5 a.m. and test the roads to see if they are drivable. They also check what weather is on the way.



# School News

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## Second quarter already?

Cody King

We're already through one-fourth of the school year! The 1st quarter will be over on Friday, October 23rd. The second quarter will kick off Monday and grades will start off new. This is very good news for some who are in the restricted study hall. That is, if you haven't been skipping classes, haven't been kicked out of any classes, and you're maintaining a C or above in all classes. Study hall is supposed to be a place to study and get work done, and if you are struggling in your classes, this rule will be enforced.

If your thinking

ahead, you will be happy to know that the last day of the semester is January 15th. Semester tests, however, will be taken before break, on December 18th, 21st, and 22nd.

When the end of the semester does come around, you will get a semester grade. This is a grade with your semester test grade and both quarter grades averaged in. Don't know how this works? Each quarter makes up 40% of your total semester grade and your semester test is worth 20%.

This year is going by fast, so enjoy it and do well in school!

## AHS Quiz Bowl

Megan Simonson

Students in AHS Quiz Bowl participated in Bishop Garrigan's Invitational Tournament on Saturday, October 17. There were 5 teams participating from AHS and two placed in the top 8 of 50 teams. Nyle Larson, Michael Wichtendahl, Connor McGuire, and Michael McMahon placed first; they did not lose one match during the day. The team beat West Bend in game 5 and AHS 2 in game 6 to place in the top four. They won against Boone in the lightning round to win the tournament.

The team of Josh Hollinger, Tommy Christian, Maddie Gisch, and Nikki Salvatore placed eighth. Other participants in the BGHS Invitational were Veronica Arndorfer, Hailey Metzger,

Christi Johnson, and Amanda Hamilton; Joel Lanus, Breanna Johnson, Samuel Lipps, and Stella Arndorfer; Alex Harms, Taylor Vander-Schaegan, Jacob Kofoot, and Jonathan Wichtendahl.

In quiz bowl, students are quizzed on their knowledge in geography, history, current events, math, science, and sports. They also have trivia and academic tournaments.

Their next tournament will be October 24th at the Ankeny High School Scholastic Bowl Tournament and then November 7th at AHS. Mrs. Wichtendahl is the coach of the AHS Quiz Bowl team. Chad Rutledge said he will be joining for the Ankeny tournament and says, "Watch out quiz bowl world, here comes me."

## AHS diplomats at Regional Conference

Travis Stone

Nine of the Algona Model UN members demonstrated superior knowledge and diplomatic skills and were named as Outstanding Delegates and Outstanding Alternates at the Iowa Youth Symposium Regional Conference on September 30th. The nine members include Morgan Coleman, Conner McGuire, Tommy Christian, Christi Johnson, Katrina Haas, Stella Andorfer, Veronica Andorfer, Hailey Metzger, and Josh Hollinger.

Sixteen AHS students attended this conference which was continued on October 20th and 21st

at the state capital in Des Moines, at the Governor's Youth Symposium. Other students from AHS Model UN include Ally Klepper, Sarah Bierle, Katie Connick, Abby Foertsch, Melinda Shultze, Rachel Hoskins, and Breanna Johnson.

The Governor's Youth Symposium gives Iowa students the opportunity to assemble with their peers and classmates from Iowa to simulate debates as U.S. delegates to the United Nations. Students use their skills on critical thinking, comparative learning, and conflict resolution to dis-

cuss, debate, and suggest solutions to this year's topics. The topics for this year are International piracy, the Copenhagen Protocol on climate change, International Espionage, and the IMF in the current world economic crisis

Students who participated in the Youth Symposium prepared resolutions on the topics that will be presented to Governor Culver and then transferred to the U.S. delegation to the United Nations.

The Model UN members had another great day at the Iowa Youth Sym-

posium. Veronica Arndorfer was chosen as one of only eight State Outstanding Delegates.

## Roxas returns

Hanna Harmon

Come on...Nobody's that Heartless. The newest game in the Kingdom Hearts saga, *Kingdom Hearts 358/2 Days* (say 3-5-8 days over 2) takes place between the first and second games in the series. It revolves around Roxas, Sora's Nobody, and his time in Organization XIII, as well as his friendship with Axel. It also introduces Xion, the mysterious fourteenth member of the organization who wields a Keyblade like Roxas. She, like Roxas, has no memories of before she became a Nobody. As Roxas, Xion, and Axel's friendship grows, they begin to wonder why the organization wants them to destroy Heartless and whether what they're doing is right or wrong.

The gameplay mirrors the PS2 games, as well as the graphics, which are extremely good for a DS game. They also keep the voice actors for the cutscenes, so you can almost forget you're playing a DS at times. There

are a lot of cutscenes, like all the games in the saga, so if you only bought the game for the combat, you'll have a lot of skipping to do. There's also a new feature added to the game – panels. The panels are a set of squares you use to equip items as you see fit. You start with only a few, but you get more as the game progresses. It also retains most of the worlds from Disney movies like *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. The game also features the first multiplayer mode of the series, as well as a new Limit Break ability.

One problem is that the missions and Heartless types are incredibly repetitive. The Heartless all fall under a few archetypes, and the missions are more often than not "Collect Hearts" or "Destroy the Giant Heartless." But other than that, the game is a must for fans of Kingdom Hearts, Disney, Final Fantasy, or anyone who likes a good game.

## Which way will it go?

Ean Weber

The corn price has been fluctuating up and down, but as of now it is gradually going up because of the bad weather. Market-ers have been saying that it will keep going up because the bad weather is making the ground wet, which pushes harvest back, and it is causing the corn to not dry out. The moisture level being high in corn causes higher costs for farmers in the drying process. It was going down because the weather

was good and the ground was dry.

By May of 2010, the corn price per bushel should be \$4.00. The markets are starting to climb back up. But as for the farmer feeding livestock, this is not good news. The farmers who are buying grain to feed their animals is costing them more. That causes the decrease in price of beef and pork. So the average farmer is not very happy.

## Hog Prices

Ryann Pearson

The prices of hogs are going down. The hog prices went down again last week 2.3%, a little more than estimated. They think the prices will go up in February, they estimate it to be up .04%, but they also believe it will be down in January about .09% but no one really has any idea what tomorrow brings.

The Chicago Board of Trade believes from May to July of 2010 the hog prices will go up traumatically to about .350%. People are looking to keep their hogs because they bought their hogs when they were high so they want to sell their hogs for even higher. The prices for feed are going to keep going up so feed will be about .35% in September of 2010.

It is getting harder and harder to get rid of them because the farmer would have to take a loss. The lower feed costs is making the hog farmers make the hogs

a little heavier for market which means they are putting less on the truck because the hogs weigh more.

On top of the hogs just being worth basically nothing, the H1N1 virus caused the prices to fall even more because a lot of people out there thought H1N1 was from hogs. It is not swine flu because it is spread by people and not hogs. People in Egypt killed off the majority of their hogs thinking that would fix the problem. It turns out it came back and hurt the economy.

The hog farmers really take pride in their work by tending to their pigs everyday of the week. If the alarms in the buildings go off at 2 in the morning, the farmer will get up and figure out what the problem is. Austin Warmbier said, "The media is killing the hog farmer because they accused the hogs for carrying the H1N1 virus."

